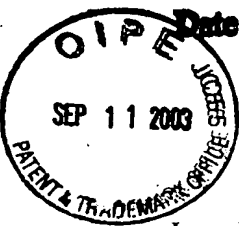


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"Express Mail" Mailing Label No. EV 346843607 US

Date of Deposit September 11, 2003

Patent
Attorney's Docket No. 002004-249



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Patent Application of)
)
G. William Ragland et al.) Group Art Unit: 3726
)
Application No.: 09/490,259) Examiner: Eric Compton
)
Filed: January 24, 2000) Confirmation No.: 6933
)
For: APPARATUS AND METHODS FOR)
MANUFACTURE OF MULTILAYER)
METAL PRODUCTS)
)

AMENDMENT/REPLY TRANSMITTAL LETTER

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SEP 17 2003

TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Mail stop NON-FEE AMENDMENT
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Enclosed is an Amendment and Reply, responding to the Office Action dated June 11, 2003 for the above-identified patent application.

- ☐ A Petition for Extension of Time is also enclosed.
- ☐ A Terminal Disclaimer and the ☐ \$55.00 (2814) ☐ \$110.00 (1814) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.20(d) are also enclosed.
- ☒ Also enclosed is/are Acknowledgment Postcard
- ☒ Small entity status is hereby claimed.
- ☐ Applicant(s) request continued examination under 37 C.F.R. § 1.114 and enclose the ☐ \$375.00 (2801) ☐ \$750.00 (1801) fee due under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(e).
- ☐ Applicant(s) previously submitted ___, on ___, for which continued examination is requested.
- ☐ Applicant(s) request suspension of action by the Office until at least ___, which does not exceed three months from the filing of this RCE, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.103(c). The required fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(i) is enclosed.



- ☐ A Request for Entry and Consideration of Submission under 37 C.F.R. § 1.129(a) (1809/2809) is also enclosed.
- ☒ No additional claim fee is required.
- ☐ An additional claim fee is required, and is calculated as shown below:

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AMENDED CLAIMS					
	NO. OF CLAIMS	HIGHEST NO. OF CLAIMS PREVIOUSLY PAID FOR	EXTRA CLAIMS	RATE	ADDT'L FEE
Total Claims	43	MINUS 49 =	0	× \$18.00 (1202) =	\$0
Independent Claims	6	MINUS 8 =	0	× \$84.00 (1201) =	\$0
If Amendment adds multiple dependent claims, add \$280.00 (1203)					\$0
Total Amendment Fee					\$0
If small entity status is claimed, subtract 50% of Total Amendment Fee					\$0
TOTAL ADDITIONAL FEE DUE FOR THIS AMENDMENT					\$0

- ☐ A claim fee in the amount of \$_____ is enclosed.
- ☐ Charge \$_____ to Deposit Account No. 02-4800.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any appropriate fees under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16, 1.17, 1.20(d) and 1.21 that may be required by this paper, and to credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 02-4800. This paper is submitted in duplicate.

Respectfully submitted,

BURNS, DOANE, SWECKER & MATHIS, L.L.P.

By: Kirk M. Nuzum
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Date: September 11, 2003